CANADIAN Film Weekly
VOICE of the CANADIAN MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY

Vol. 8, No. 30 TORONTO, JULY 21, 1943 $2.00 Per Annum

Plan Movies in Public Parks

Are to Be Part of Recreation For War Workers After Shifts

Motion pictures in public parks are among the diversions suggested for war workers by the Recreation for War Workers Conference, which met in Toronto recently to find ways of boosting morale and production. There are about 50 members of the committee, drawn from church, labor and religious bodies.

An order-in-council was passed recently in Ottawa which empowered selective service to approach provincial departments of labor and suggest that committees be set up to find recreation for workers.

YMCA and YWCA organizations

(Continued on Page 2)

Reopen Princess, Radville, Sask.

The Princess Theatre, Radville, Saskatchewan, which was seriously damaged by fire during March of this year, has been repaired and reopened with a policy of four show nights each week. Mr. and Mrs. M. S. Ferris, who purchased the theatre from Mrs. T. Reez, spared nothing to make the house modern and safe. Their son, Alex,

(Continued on Page 5)

Foto-Night Wins Another Case

An action taken by the provincial attorney-general's department against the manager of the Capitol and Noranda theatres, Noranda, Ontario, in connection with the running of Foto-nite was dismissed by District Magistrate A. Bolly in a judgment last week. The charge was that of contravening the criminal code concerning lotteries. Both

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Prelim Pow-Wow For Bond Drive

The motion picture industry is wasting no time in seeing that the theatre end of the October Victory Loan campaign runs smoothly.

Film men met one day last week in the offices of J. J. Fitzgibbons, national chairman of the Motion Picture Section of the National War Finance Committee and discussed the new drive with D. B. Mansur of Ottawa, vice-president of the National War Finance Committee, and C. Richardson, public relations chief of the same setup.

The industry is expected to push harder than ever to roll the new quota up, over and down the hill.

Warners Will Watch Market

Warner Brothers studios, with a big production schedule going, will keep a close check on public taste when it comes to releasing the finished work, according to Jack L. Warner, executive producer. Fourteen features are ready, five in production and a dozen are set for the sound stages.

The complete list includes 12

(Continued on Page 4)

Centre, Chatham's 2nd Anniversary

Harland Rankin had the town of Chatham join in to celebrate the second anniversary of the Centre Theatre. Plenty of space in the local press to the event and some local bodies helped.

Larry New to Army

Larry New, manager of the Grandview Theatre, Vancouver, has checked out of the house and into the army.

NFB Discussed in House of Commons

Seventy-four films produced by the National Film Board cost $675,348.10 to make, part of which cost was borne by the Wartime Information Board, it was revealed during a debate in the House of Commons.

"These films have had an extensive distribution in the United States, Canada and other countries," explained Brooke Claxton, M.P. from Montreal. "For example the 'Canada Carries On' series has had a nominal distribution of 2,250,000 in Canada. It also was distributed to 96 different territories, including South Africa and other countries,

(Continued on Page 2)

John Sherman Mono's Toronto Manager

Harry Kaufman, Monogram's Canadian general manager, has announced the appointment of John (Doc) Sherman to the post of Toronto branch manager. The Doc is a live wire and popular to boot.

Elgin Helps Stamp Sale

Here is a swell display to help the sale of war bonds. It's in the lobby of the Elgin, Ottawa. The lads are: (left) Steve McManus, manager, and (right) Ted Smiley, assistant manager.

Protect That Weekly Business with PRE-SOLD SERIALS made from adventure strips followed by millions daily in newspapers, books and magazines. Available right now are such ticket selling titles as "Junior G-Men of the Air," "Adventures of Smiling Jack," "Daredevils of the West," "Gang Busters," "King of the Mounties" and others—with such stars as the Dead End Kids, Kay Aldridge, Lon Chaney Jr., Claire Dodd, John Litel, Buck Jones and others. Contact EMPIRE-UNIVERSAL FILMS LIMITED for playing time.
(Advt.)

Film Weekly

Vol. 8, No. 30 July 21, 1943

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Address all communications—The Managing Editor, Canadian Film Weekly, 25 Dundas Square, Toronto, Canada.

Published by Film Publications of Canada, Ltd., 25 Dundas Square, Toronto, Ont., Canada. Phone ADelaide 4317. Price 5 cents each or $2.00 per year. Entered as Second Class Matter

Us Again

Most unusual ad to appear in the trade press in a long time is the one inserted by the inmates of San Quentin Prison and signed by Warden Clinton Duffy. Made up like a signed and sealed document, it is headed "Certificate of Appreciation to the Republic Picture Corporation, San Francisco," and reads:

"We, the inmates of San Quentin Prison, take this manner to express our sincere thanks and appreciation for your generous kindness and whole-hearted co-operation in supplying us with such excellent and high-quality Motion Pictures for our entertainment and diversion.

"We men eagerly look forward to these pictures, not only for the amusement they afford us but for their educational and moral value as well.

"They help to instil the right mental attitude in preparing us for resuming life's normal ways when we have paid our debt to society, and are once again allowed to mingle freely among our fellow men outside these walls."

It's a significant document to any willing to value the opinion of those deprived of their rights as enemies of Society. One is inclined to place some faith in it because the inmates have used their own state of life as the means by which the influence of motion pictures is judged.

On the Other Hand

Latest addition to the periodic charges that movies help demoralize the young comes from Chief Constable Draper of Toronto. The Chief, if he has time, can engage the opposition, as represented by the boys in San Quentin, in disputation.

About motion pictures Chief Draper said:

"The trend of modern times in the motion pictures seems to be the showing of the battle between the underworld and the forces of law and order. It may well be argued that, in all these pictures, the criminal is eventually brought to justice, but, certainly, in most instances great care is taken to point out just where the criminal made his mistake which resulted in his apprehension. Being generally in the feature role, the criminal is quite often the child's hero in the film. There is no doubt that motion pictures make an impression that is sometimes not in the best interests of the child's welfare."

Most people think that the absence of mere violence and the presence of justice in motion pictures is enough to prevent children from getting the wrong idea. Children still follow the fortunes of the hero; which is proved by fan clubs.

Juvenile delinquency today is an extraordinary situation brought on by new conditions. The motion picture is not a new condition. If it had the influence on the young which Chief Draper attributes to it, delinquency would have been a great problem since the development of the motion picture industry on a broad scale, instead of since the war.

The fact is that from a juvenile standpoint motion pictures have been improved. The official and unofficial judges of what's good in movies have seen to that.

We'd rather believe that some things have been added to the world of things which interest children. Those things are part of social conditions and war psychology. Juvenile delinquency begins with them. To blame the movies is taking the easy way.

Not that the movies are blameless. Let sociologists be judges of that. But they're not nearly so bad as some say they are.

Discuss NFB In Commons

(Continued from Page 1)

and in twelve different languages. Those films had a non-theatrical distribution of over a million. The series 'The World in Action' had a distribution of 2,250,000 in Canada. Eight of those films were distributed to 6,000 United States theatres, and three of them went to 500 United Kingdom theatres. In addition the wartime information board facilitated the production of a picture used in the victory loan campaign, of which 274 prints were made."

Of 14 commercial films made by the NFB for the WIB and distributed in South America, 11 were part of United Artists' "World in Action" series. The films, which have Spanish and Portuguese sound tracks, were shown in 400 Mexican theatres also. Eight more are in preparation.

John Grierson was appointed to head the WIB at the suggestion of his predecessor, who resigned because of illness, Mr. Claxton told the House. On loan from the NFB, he receives his salary from the organization and only travelling expenses from the WIB.

Jules Levey Lines Up Prominent Writers

Jules Levey has signed nine top-flight writers for the five big pictures he will make for United Artists, among them Howard Estabrook, who did "Human Comedy."

JOHN S. KURK

He's manager of the Royal Theatre, North Bay, Ontario, the 35th anniversary of which is being celebrated by citizens of the mining town. It was built as an opera house.

Plan Movies in Public Parks

(Continued from Page 1)

have expressed willingness to help, as have the Catholic youth organization, the Baptist Church, St. Christopher House, University Settlement, the Salvation Army, Anglican and Presbyterian churches. Labor groups are also co-operating. The Toronto Art gallery has sent speakers to factories on the subject of hobbies for workers off shift. The Royal Ontario Museum has offered the use of its galleries, its theatre and other facilities at operating cost.

Boxing and dancing in closed-off streets or public parks are planned. In Toronto's Trinity Park the Kiwanis' Friday night movies are attended by thousands.

Swing shift shows, organized unofficially by members of the conference, were the subject of a press controversy recently. Exhibitors classified them as failures while officials quoted figures to prove that they were a success. They were discontinued after a number of experiments.

Safecrackers Busy in Vancouver Theatres

Vancouver theatres have been suffering from a rash of safecrackers. The latest houses to entertain the unwelcome visitors were the Capitol and the Circle.

At the Capitol thieves trussed up the elderly watchman and hammered the dial off the safe but were scared away before they could go any further. A protective agency sent an investigator because the watchman had not punched in and the former discovered the attempted robbery.

The Circle safe was also blasted but the thieves got no further than the outside door.

There were three such attempts during the week.

RKO Gang At NY Convention

Led by Leo Devaney, Canadian chief of RKO, branch managers and head office men attended the annual convention of the company at the Waldorf-Astoria, New York City.

Lady Manager for Fort William, Ont.

Emmelien A. Colpitts is the new manager of the Lake Theatre, Fort William, Ontario, succeeding Nestor Novak, now with the armed forces.

Mrs. Colpitts, whose husband is overseas, was secretary-treasurer of the Lake for several years. Before that she was at the Orpheum.

THE PICK OF THE PICTURES

Canadian Film Weekly
VOICE OF THE CANADIAN MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY

REVIEWS INFORMATION RATINGS

Vol. 8, No. 30 COAST-TO-COAST COVERAGE July 21, 1943

'Coney' Tops, 'Bomb'dier' OK

'Pilot No. 5' Anti-Fascist

"PILOT NO. 5"
REGAL
(Running Time: 78 Mins.)

"Pilot No. 5" is a fine picture as much for what it tries to say as for what it shows. It is anti-Fascist in a realistic way, taking a whack at the Huey Long types in American life and naming them plainly and openly as Fascists. This describing the native forms and proponents of Fascism as what they really are has been covered up by an excessive amount of talk about the glories of Democracy. The other side of life in certain places on this continent and the men who keep it that way has been largely ignored.

"Pilot No. 5" has two extremely popular players carrying the story, Franchot Tone and Gene Kelly, and they are ably supported by Marsha Hunt. Then there's Van Johnson, who did so well in "Human Comedy," and Alan Baxter. These names give it boxoffice strength beyond the actual quality of the picture.

Tone and Kelly are young American lawyers serving the purposes of a ruthless, grafting state political machine led by a man with a phoney homespun manner. Marsha Hunt, wooed by both, fights hard to make them see that they are working for native Fascism. Not until tragedy has resulted do they become politically aware and the realization motivates their actions from then on.

Kelly, in the film, is of Italian descent and an admirer of Mussolini, His brother, played by Frank Puglia, escapes from an Italian prison, where he had been jailed for serving the Underground. A broken man, he suicides when he cannot make Kelly realize that Fascism is not necessarily shirted men in a foreign land. Puglia does a fine bit of acting here.

The story opens on an American batlefront. Tone has won the nomination to make a sacrifice bombing of a Jap carrier in the lone plane. His comrades discuss his life and the story flashes back.

"Pilot No. 5" is a strong picture which just misses top rating because of modest production.

"CONEY ISLAND"
20th-FOX
(Running Time: 94 Mins.)

"Coney Island" is big, boisterous, beautiful and entertaining for almost its entire footage. It is unrestrained high-jinks without any strain in playing and plot and its musical numbers are simple and melodious, the studios music masters wisely avoiding over-orchestration. Thus, everything is easy to take, particularly the marvelous Technicolor, which seems to reach out and wrap itself around you.

The film's best bit, of course, is Betty Grable, who reaches a new high as a performer. She has improved vastly in every department — singing, dancing and acting. Miss Grable's talents are definite competition for those famed limbs and you actually pay considerable attention to her even when she is wearing those long dresses of the 90s vintage.

Though the story is the same old routine, the boys who play the roles are of wide public interest. There are George Montgomery, Cesar Romero, Charles Wininger and Phil Silvers. The first two take care of the feminine fans and the last two snatch the picture's acting honors. Thus the studio touched all the bases in what is a boxoffice homer — and a long homer at that.

The studio can take many a bow on production. The Coney Island background is colorful enough in sepia but given hues and expert mounting it becomes a rare experience for the eye.

Montgomery and Romero are a couple of shady old pals always cheating each other. Montgomery, bilked by Romero out of the assets with which he established a swell saloon, catches up with him at the resort and wins a share through blackmail. Miss Grable is the star of the joint. A honky-tonk singer, she is converted to a society favorite by Montgomery's showmanship. Both boys want her love but Monty, after much give-and-take, wins out.

There are any number of swell production numbers and the old songs get their due. Helping things along are Matt Briggs, Paul Hurst, Carmen D'Antonio and a cast of hundreds.

"BOMBARDIER"
RKO
(Running Time: 97 Mins.)

Though "Bombardier" deals with USA training and seems slightly longer than necessary to the best interests of the film, it commands attention well until it reaches the section of it dealing with a raid on Japan. Then it becomes as exciting as anything you ever saw. The thrills originate from the escape of captured American aviators who teach the Japs a lesson about giving up lives at the greatest cost.

What moves the film throughout is the difference of opinion about the merits of dive bombing from on high. The exponents of each are Pat O'Brien and Randolph Scott. O'Brien, playing the role of an instructor in his usual loud-volume manner, eventually proves that precision bombing is superior.

Romantic department is headed by Ann Shirley, O'Brien's secretary, daughter of a famous aviation figure whose private field has become a military station. Everybody is nuts about Miss Shirley. O'Brien, being too old, is refused. Randolph Scott sacrifices himself during the Japanese raid. So Walter Reed, student pilot and pal of Eddie Albert, Shirley's brother, wins out.

Much of the film takes place before Pearl Harbor but it is interesting technically despite the secondary interest of the event to Canada. The training of the bombardiers is shown clearly.

There is still a live interest in war films, though they are declining. That and the thrilling sequences should bring good business to "Bombardier."

Also in the cast are Barton MacLane, Robert Ryan, Leonard Strong, Richard Martin, Russell Wade, James Newill, John Miljan and Charles Russell. MacLane does well as a tough sergeant, Martin. offers some good Spanish dialect comedy and Miljan, off the screens for a while, makes a short appearance here.

O'Connor Hot In 'Mr. Big'

"MR. BIG"
UNIVERSAL
(Running Time: 74 Mins.)

This is an excellent picture loaded with laughs for the junior trade and plentifully entertaining for their elders. The studio has been boosting its star, Donald O'Connor, and he comes through in fine fashion. It is above the usual run of Universal's compact musicals and doesn't pretend to offer anything but entertainment. O'Connor and Gloria Jean help it make its point.

The story, which can be dismissed quickly, is about the annual school show aimed at Broadway producers.

O'Connor is the pride and joy of the music and theatre school, a lady-killer with an excess of talent. The patron of the school wants the classics. The kids want swing. Their teacher, Robert Paige, teaches classics publicly and writes swing privately.

To guarantee entertainment the studio has inserted Eddie Miller's Bob Cats, Ben Carter Chorus and the Jivin' Jacks and Jills.

The Carter Chorus is made up of Negro juveniles who sing beautifully. The others are dancing groups. There are ten musical numbers in the show, all of them modestly presented and each well done.

Samuel S. Hinds is the dean and Elyse Knox, his daughter who shares the romance with Paige.

With plenty of swing and jitterbugging and with no zoot suits, "Mr. Big" will help O'Connor and the studio, as well as please the public.

Honor Chas. Maybee, Winnipeg Inspector

Charles Maybee, theatre inspector in Winnipeg, who is leaving for new employment, was honored at the Marlborough Hotel of that city by 30 of his friends.

A gift was presented to Mr. Maybee by Trevor Davis. Among the speakers were James Leslie, chief wages and conciliation officer for Manitoba, and T. J. Williams, inspector.

MONOGRAM PICTURES OF CANADA LTD.

277 Victoria St.
Toronto

Current Releases

GHOSTS ON THE LOOSE

East Side Kids, Bela Lugosi, Ava Gardner (Mrs. Mickey Rooney)

MR. EXHIBITOR: East Side Kids' pictures are proving the most popular boxoffice attractions in Canada today—and satisfying all types of patrons. They are real entertainment. Ask the exhibitors who play East Side Kid pictures—they will tell you that they make money and are entertaining the patrons.

WINGS OVER THE PACIFIC

Inez Cooper and Edward Norris in a timely picture of the type that spells boxoffice.

SPY TRAIN

Richard Travis and Catherine Craig in a mystery story of the present war—as timely as today's headlines.

MONOGRAM is releasing fast-action Westerns—eight this year. The public today are in the mood for this type of picture and our Westerns answer that demand. Now ready—four Western subjects featuring Johnny Mack Brown and Raymond Hatton, and four featuring Ken Maynard and Hoot Gibson.

★

Coming Soon—

MELODY PARADE
A bright, sparkling musical—singing, dancing, comedy, music.

REVENGE of the ZOMBIES

I WAS A CRIMINAL

COLLEGE SWEETHEART

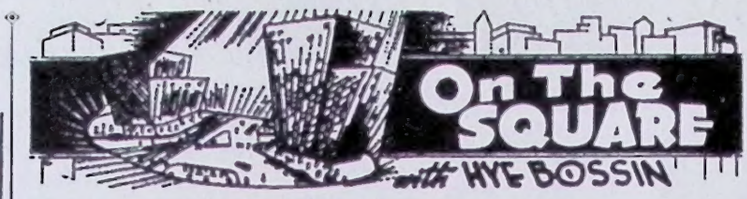
We are happy to announce that Monogram Pictures of Canada Limited will be one year old on October 4th, and we want to take this opportunity of thanking all exhibitors for their valued business—and don't forget our First Anniversary Drive, weeks of October 4th and 11th.

★

The fastest-growing company in the industry

MONOGRAM PICTURES

Toronto, Montreal, St. John Winnipeg, Calgary, Vancouver



Heard Hereabouts

Nelson Shea, who used to be at Shea's and the Uptown, is now running the Brookwood as a high-class eatery. . . . Projectionist Al Liscomb was overwhelmed with grandpappy-itis one day last week. Al's daughter gave birth to twin girls and his daughter-in-law to a girl on that day. . . . E. J. Barber, operator at the Centre, Chatham, acquired a baby son last week. . . . Mel Jolley of the Marks, Oshawa, who offered a $10 reward for information leading for a place to live, got about 15 applicants and found a nice place. Mel, the missus and daughter Sylvia, a friendly and curious tot, dropped in last week. Sylvia forgot her Yo-Yo. Take the danged thing out of here, Mel, so that I can get some work done. . . . I almost forgot: Headlines Clairman, the Square's favorite newsboy, also became a father a while back.

* * *

Around and About

The boys from Empire-Universal and Odeon have been getting their exercise by pitching in on the Nathanson farm. . . . And the film section of the Farm Commandos have been having a busy time. There are 26 of them and they can't get enough of the rural life. . . . The news that Bob Alda got the George Gershwin role pleased the Casino mob. Bob, a swell guy, spent several summers there and his young son, who is being tested for the role of Gershwin as a boy, was everybody's favorite. . . . Another fellow remembered well is Phil Silvers, whose latest role is in "Coney Island." Phil was over-fond of horses and the neighborhood bookmakers have been casting longing eyes in the direction of Hollywood ever since Phil landed there. . . . Harland Rankin, celebrating the second anniversary of the Centre, Chatham, mailed a birthday cake to 20th Century head office, causing an impromptu party.

* * *

Customer Always Right?

In Kansas City a woman who was refused admittance because of the dog with her, snarled at the manager: "Don't apologize. I wouldn't be surprised if my dog's social position were superior to yours, anyway." . . . Office of Price Administration in the USA issued the following reminder: "Our ancestors got along without sugar until the 13th century, without coal until the 14th century, without buttered bread until the 15th, without potatoes until the 16th, without coffee until the 17th, without matches until the 18th, and without gasoline until the 19th." We'll have to do without them occasionally now to help do without Hitler. . . . A number of film men are headed for the Reserve Army camps.

* * *

Hey, Hollywood!

Maybe this ad from one of the Toronto daily papers can solve somebody's problem about where to find a draft-exempt fellow with plenty of talent. Telephone Scarboro 441 or write A. Hartley, 2220 Kingston road, Toronto. Mr. Hartley's ad reads:

"Physically fit, military exempt, six foot 1½ inches tall, hundred-ninety pounds, experienced commercial fisherman, trapper, miner, and prospector, locomotive engineer and foreman truck driver, cow-puncher, sales manager, soldier, organizer, musician. Wants position, better pay than ordinary; danger no objection, war work preferred."

* * *

Hollywood Kidded in Commons

During the debate in the House of Commons over the War Information Board, which is headed by John Grierson of the National Film Board, Brooke Claxton, Montreal, Quebec, discussed Grierson's capabilities and pointed out that his work had received "the Academy Award known in Hollywood as the Oscar."

"That is quite an award," said Gordon Graydon, House leader of the Opposition.

"Yes," said Mr. Claxton, "there is nothing higher in the world."

"The Order of Merit?" questioned the Hon. Dr. Bruce of Toronto.

Warners Will Watch Market

(Continued from Page 1)

stage hits, about the same number of popular novels, six musicals and six biographical stories.

Ready for the new season are:

"Watch on the Rhine," from the Broadway stage hit, starring Bette Davis, Paul Lukas and Geraldine Fitzgerald.

"Thank Your Lucky Stars," musical, with a cast including Humphrey Bogart, Eddie Cantor, Bette Davis, Olivia de Havilland, Errol Flynn, John Garfield, Joan Leslie, Ida Lupino, Dennis Morgan, Ann Sheridan, Dinah Shore, Alexis Smith, Jack Carson, Alan Hale, Edward Everett Horton, S. Z. Sakall, Hattie McDaniel, Willie Best, Ruth Donnelly, Henry Armetta, Noble Johnson, Spike Jones and His City Slickers, Don Wilson and others.

"Old Acquaintance," from the stage hit, starring Bette Davis and Miriam Hopkins.

"Princess O'Rourke," comedy starring Olivia de Havilland, Robert Cummings, Jack Carson and Jane Wyman.

"The Desert Song," from the stage operetta, with Dennis Morgan and Irene Manning.

"Devotion," based on the life of the Bronte sisters, starring Olivia de Havilland, Ida Lupino, Nancy Coleman, Paul Henreid and Sydney Greenstreet.

"Saratoga Trunk," Edna Ferber's best-seller, with Gary Cooper and Ingrid Bergman.

"Arsenic and Old Lace," from the stage hit, starring Cary Grant, Priscilla Lane and Raymond Massey.

"The Adventures of Mark Twain," with Fredric March and Alexis Smith.

Now in production and expected to be finished by the start of the new season are:

"Northern Pursuit," drama with a Canadian northwest locale, starring Errol Flynn with Julie Bishop, Helmut Dantine, Gene Lockhart.

"Destination Tokyo," starring Cary Grant and John Garfield.

"Conflict," with Humphrey Bogart, Alexis Smith and Sydney Greenstreet.

"In Our Time," from the book by Robert St. John, starring Ida Lupino, Paul Henreid, Nancy Coleman.

"Shine On Harvest Moon," musical based on the life of Nora Bayes, with Ann Sheridan, Dennis Morgan, Jack Carson and Irene Manning.

Reopen Princess, Radville, Sask.

(Continued from Page 1)

was one of those burned by the fire, which took place on the first night of operation by the new owners.

Dominion Sound Equipment, through its Winnipeg office, installed two new projection machines. The damaged machines were reconditioned but worked uncertainly and the owners ordered two new machines rather than take any chances. A new screen was added, the old one having been damaged by water and torn.

The projection room, now metal-lined, has been enlarged and a special winding room added. Between the both rooms is a film cabinet with a metal door on each side.

The upper storey of the theatre, which suffered the most damage, was removed and a new roof put on. The exit doors have been fitted with new style panic latches and can be opened from the inside with the lightest push. The front of the theatre has been repainted, the interior refinished and new electrical wiring installed.

At the time of the fire there were few people in the theatre and it was emptied quickly with no accidents. Firefighters were hampered by snow.

Big Launching for 'Action in Atlantic'

Two-Ocean Launchings and several key ceremonial curtsies will shortly be accorded Warner's "Action In the North Atlantic" throughout the Dominion of Canada. R. S. Roddick, district manager for Famous Players Canadian Corporation in the Maritimes, has arranged an ambitious bow for this first motion picture about the merchant navy at the Capitol, Halifax, on July 15, while Larry Bearg, who holds the same position with Famous Players in British Columbia, has set a similar affair for the Orpheum, Vancouver, on the 16th.

It is planned that Dewar Ferguson, secretary-treasurer of the Canadian Seamen's Union, will attend the Halifax opening, launching there the first unit of the newly-formed "Torpedoed Men's Club" and presenting to seamen, who have been torpedoed, medals to denote such hazardous exploits. The Royal Canadian Navy, the Navy League of Canada and the Sea Cadets will take part in various functions in both Halifax and Vancouver.

Owen Sound Likes Chris Georgas

CHRIS GEORGAS of Owen Sound, anyone who knows him will tell you, is a nice fellow but don't try to push him around. He knows what's right and he's willing to fight for it. He came to Canada's fair domain in 1899, resolved to make things better for himself and as many Georgas as possible. That was a laudable and ambitious undertaking on the part of a lad of 13. Enough time has gone by to take an estimate of the extent of Chris' success. Today he is a successful business and family man who enjoys the regard of his fellow-citizens and co-religionists.

The Owen Sound operator comes from a line of stalwarts who were nominated by history to defend modern civilization on their native soil, Greece. Greece can be considered the native soil of modern civilization, the demos or democratic parliament having been one of the glories that was Greece. The British shared the defence of Greece. Here was a union of both loyalties of Chris Georgas, Greece and the Empire, against a mutual enemy.

You can bet a dime to a diamond that Chris wishes time would turn backward so that he could participate physically in a cause that blends all his loves and loyalties into one. Once before he had returned to Greece to help defeat its enemies. The year was 1912 and Chris was in his 20s. The Balkan War had begun and the Bulgarians, enemies then as now, were threatening the homeland. Chris Georgas said farewell to Canada and returned to help make short work of the enemy.

IN 1920 Chris got out of the restaurant business and built the Classic Theatre, Owen Sound, with the financing of C. C. Bebb of Collingwood, who still owns it. Chris has a long-term contract for its operation and also looks after the Savoy Theatre, which he acquired from John H. Moore in 1932. Both houses have a Famous Players hookup.

Chris is the son of George Georgas, a clergyman of the Greek Orthodox Church, and he believes that his mother and father are still alive in Greece, having heard news to that effect in January. The religious background is still a great influence in his life. He was one of those chiefly responsible for the establishment some years ago of the Greek Orthodox Church on Bond street, Toronto, in the premises formerly occupied by the Holy Blossom Synagogue. During the Greek War Relief campaign he acted as chairman for Owen Sound and district.

The first Canadian stop of Chris Georgas was Sault Ste. Marie, where he had been brought by his uncle, Peter Apostle, from Angelona, near Sparta. After a year

CHRIS GEORGAS

This Owen Sound citizen has been a theatre operator for 23 years. He came to Canada at the age of 13 and today is successful and popular among his fellow-Canadians.

and a half of working for his uncle, he opened a small fruit business. Successful, he moved to Owen Sound and established a confectionery store. In 1910 he left Collingwood for Owen Sound, where he has lived for more than 30 of his 44 Canadian years. Canada liked Chris and Chris likes Canada so he brought three of his brothers here. All are successful in different Ontario cities.

CHRIS was married in 1916 to Miss Sadie Scopis of Cobourg and they have 10 children. Three of his sons are interested in theatre business. George assists his father in the management of the theatres, William is the projectionist at the Savoy and Louis is one of the projectionists at Camp Borden, where he is attached to the Ordnance Corps. A daughter, Georgia, is a member of the Women's Division of the RCAF.

The Owen Sound exhibitor is recognized as one of the keenest showmen in Ontario and one of the most prominent citizens of that community. He is a leader in civic drives and his theatres have always been at the service of any worthy cause.

He came up the hard way, a route admired by all Canadians. He has done well in Canada and is grateful to this country. "I love Greece, which is my native land," he said, "but I consider Canada one of the finest countries in the world. I consider myself and my family as Canadians and hope to always reside here." But he would like another look at Greece when the war is over.

The Daily Sun-Times of Owen Sound recently devoted a long story to the life of Chris Georgas.

Foto-Night Wins Another Case

(Continued from Page 1)

are Famous Players theatres.

It was ruled that the cheque issued to Mrs. Simon Sullivan by Famous Players was remitted not to acquit an obligation which would have been assented to by the accused on the occasion of a drawing, but in consideration of the sale of a photograph which could be used by the Capitol and Noranda or by any other concern for purposes of publicity.

"By not having proved that the cheque of three hundred dollars was issued for purposes of lottery by Famous Players Canadian Corp. the accused cannot be charged with having participated in a lottery," stated the judgment.

The preliminary hearing was held at Rouyn, Quebec, about a month ago. Leo Bureau represented the crown and M. P. Cuddihy and Louis Davidson of Toronto the defendant.

Judgment is still pending in an action against the manager of the Alexander Theatre, Rouyn, in connection with Stamp-Nite.

Alexander's Win

Harry Alexander of the Brock bought a raffle ticket at a benefit game—and won a jar of pickled herring. Hasn't brought any around, the hoarder.

Youths Must Register

Under the new manpower edict from Ottawa youths of 16, 17 and 18 must register with National Selective Service by July 24th. There are quite a few in these age groups employed in exchanges and theatres.

Big Negro Circuit In United States

There are several hundred Negro theatres in the United States which play all-Negro films. A new feature, "We've Come a Long Way Together," has just been completed by Negro Marches On, Inc., and will go into first run houses on this circuit.

Producers Releasing Corporation Limited PRC
H. J. ALLEN, President

'Submarine Base'

EXCITING
says the
HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

'SUBMARINE BASE'
(PRC)

The players: John Litel, Alan Baxter, Iris Adrian, Fifi D'Orsay, Eric Blore, Jacqueline Dalya, George Metaxa, George Lee, Rafael Storm, Luis Alberni, Anna Demetrio, Lucien Prival.

A tightly knit melodrama, PRC's "Submarine Base" offers a war-background story well off the beaten track. It presents action, comedy and suspense in a thoroughly balanced mixture which will please audiences in houses of better grade than those at which the film was aimed. The cast boasts of capable actors who deliver well, the direction is terse and effective, the production and the technical achievements are far above their budget limitations.

John Litel, as a New York detective who joins the Merchant Marine upon the outbreak of the war, is the sole survivor of a torpedoed vessel at the Equator. He is rescued by a fishing smack, run by Alan Baxter, a former gangster hiding out from the law. Litel, stranded at the island headquarters of the ex-gangster whose mate is Eric Blore, becomes suspicious of the source of their income. He investigates, to find that Baxter is aiding Nazi submarines load torpedoes at the island. At the climax, the gangster's odd patriotism is told, he having set time bombs in the subs for which he provided ammunition. The slight romantic interest comes through the presence on the island of a group of showgirls and the jealousy of an island girl of the gangster's attentions to one of them.

Baxter and Litel deliver handsomely in their roles, which monopolize the story. Eric Blore and Luis Alberni furnish most of the comedy, with Fifi D'Orsay in the role of the island girl. Iris Adrian and Jacqueline Dalya head the chorines, with George Metaxa doing well as the German agent on the island. Outstanding bits are played by George Lee, as a Briton who aids in the investigation, and Frederic Brunn who, uncredited, plays a submarine captain. Brunn doubled as production manager.

Albert Kelley's direction is a triumph of effectiveness in pacing characters. Producer Jack Schwartz and his associate, Harry D. Edwards, rate bows for their share of the work. Photography by Marcel LePicard, editing credited to Holbrook N. Todd, are direction by Frank Sylos, and the music score by Charles Dant are all above standard of this type of picture.

Producers Releasing Corporation
LIMITED
Executive Offices:
277 Victoria St., Toronto, 2, Ont.

New Equipment After the War

Sound recording and reproducing equipment for motion pictures will have to be revamped after the war, according to K. F. Morgan, one of the regional managers of Western Electric.

Some of the mechanical improvements are "superior and revolutionary," Morgan said and when applied to motion picture entertainment are certain to have a vital effect. He added that a tremendous amount of war research has been going on in sound projection and auxiliary fields, particularly for submarine and aircraft purposes. "We constantly think of what we're going to be able to do when we get into production for peace uses of this equipment," he said.

In addition to his own field of sound, Morgan pointed to the tremendous developments in cameras and photographic practices and, in fact, in every phase of the mechanical side of film making as further proof that the technique of motion picture production is due for big changes. No hint can be given of the new developments since they are all military secrets.

Morgan stated that studios are experiencing no shortage of sound equipment because of the war, although Western Electric is manufacturing none of its standard sound devices at the present time.

He said that the War Production Board of the USA has given a high priority on materials to build replacement parts.

A LAUDABLE REPORT

(From the Toronto Globe and Mail)

In the maintenance of morale in war the motion picture plays an important part. It provides relaxation, pleasure and rest for millions of Canadians. The annual report of the Motion Picture Censorship and Theatre Inspection Branch, issued by the chairman of the Board of Motion Picture Censors, Mr. O. J. Silverthorne, to Mr. St. Clair Gordon, Provincial Treasurer, tells an interesting story of the war job done by the movie industry.

The motion picture theatres have co-operated completely with all organizations to help publicize war loans, war charity drives, and many other matters. They have opened their theatre screens for these purposes free of any charge. Mr. Silverthorne, in his report, says his branch is of the opinion that "the motion picture interests and all those associated with entertainment in the Province of Ontario have met, and can meet, any of the difficulties arising from war."

In a summary of the work of his department, the chairman states the record of the theatres in these words:

"During the past year all motion picture theatres in Ontario have made their screens available for the presentation of Government information. Through the medium of the screen the public has been acquainted with information from various departments of government, particularly in connection with the Victory Loan campaigns, when the theatres ran three pictures in support of the loans. In addition, the screens are made available to publicize appeals of various worthy organizations such as the Canadian Red Cross, Aid to Russia, Greek Relief, etc. Theatres in all cases have given their screens free of charge in presenting these messages. During recent months many of the theatres in Ontario have presented special children's morning matinees for which the only price of admission was salvage. The cost of these performances was borne entirely by the theatres and the motion picture film distributors. Recently, as the result of these shows, many tons of fat were collected by the theatres and turned over to the Government for the manufacture of explosives."

Great care is taken by Mr. Silverthorne's board to oversee the theatres in regard to safety measures. As proof that this policy has been a success the report points out that, though 2,000,000 people attend places of amusement weekly, there have been no deaths and no accidents. This is a fine record, for which the board and the theatres can both take pride.

Paper Surveys Show Damage

The difficulty of maintaining facilities required by law because of vandalism was revealed in a survey of local theatres taken by the Standard-Freeholder of Cornwall, Ontario. Three managers were interviewed by a reporter from the newspaper and they painted a black picture. Vandalism is not confined to men or boys.

"Girls or women remove their surplus lipstick by 'kissing' the walls or mirrors," A. V. Whitham, manager of the Palace Theatre, said.

"Soap and racks or containers have been taken so regularly that now I just put a bar of common wash soap on the basin. It is the only kind that is left there," Murray Keillor, of the Roxy Theatre, stated.

"How long would you say it is since that wall was painted?" the manager asked during a tour of the Roxy Theatre, pointing to a scribbled and scarred wall in the men's washroom. A year was the estimate.

"Just one month," Mr. Keillor replied. He pointed to a steel tube hand rail and said the first rail had been torn loose from the wall and bent double. A similar hand rail had been broken in the centre. A wash room door was torn off, he said, and a convenient bar across the room had to be removed as exuberant youths used it to chin themselves and to swing up and kick the ceiling. A wash basin was damaged and when it was replaced the manager said that it was bolted through an eight-inch cement wall. It is still there.

Damage was not as extensive in the women's washroom, but a large mirror was cracked and ash trays and small fittings had disappeared as fast as they were replaced, he stated.

"There is no encouragement to supply good fixtures or furniture," Mr. Keillor declared. "We had two stainless steel chairs in one of the washrooms, but they were smashed and had to be removed. We did not replace them, as it would only have happened again. Cornwall is not alone. There is vandalism in theatres all across the Dominion.

"The most serious damage was to our screen, we have had four holes put clear through it by boys with a sling shot and marbles. A screen costs $600 and now under war conditions it can not be replaced."

R. H. V. McCartney, of the Capitol theatre, stated that electric light bulbs disappeared at a rapid rate and this constituted a

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'Gates of Italy' Timed Exactly

A fortunate piece of timing is the newest release of the National Film Board, "The Gates of Italy," released in the Dominion by Columbia as part of the Canada Carries On series. The film came just as the news of the Allied invasion, with Canadians as the spearhead, stole every headline in Canada. The film reveals the Italian people in a political and military dilemma.

Watching Mussolini's boasted strongholds vanish beneath Allied bombs, the peoples of the free world are recalling the strange and bitter story which today has brought Italy to its last and desperate hour.

"The Gates of Italy," latest National Film Board release, examines the confused and impoverished rule of Italian dictatorship.

When he was still an obscure, radical journalist Mussolini cried, "Down with the State. Italy needs food, but her leaders have given her only a useless army."

Once in power, says "The Gates of Italy," the Fascists told the Italians, "He who can make steel will soon have bread."

"For three years," states the commentary, "they have lived on shorter rations than those of most of conquered Europe. Helpless in the hands of one invader they have been watching, waiting for the coming of another."

Several NFB shorts have beaten the headlines in the past, creating something of a sensation here and in the United States.

Paper Surveys Show Damage

(Continued from Page 6)

considerable annoyance. Paper towels are taken or wasted and thrown about.

"Anything that isn't nailed down and a lot of things that are nailed down are taken," he asserted. "We did have quite a bit of trouble with slashed seat covers but we have that pretty well stopped now. But there seems to be no end to what some one will do next. We had a nice bed of tulips and were quite proud of them, but some one deliberately cut the flowers and then threw about half of them on the ground. We have had children pick a few flowers, but the former case was one of wanton destruction."

All three theatre managers united to lament that vandalism discouraged all attempts to install expensive or even new furnishings. Even many facilities required by law, such as the soap containers, could not be maintained.

Echoes and Reflections

Sunday Street Scene

Down Dundas street the other Sunday two boys were forcing an unwilling lady goat to accompany them. One was dragging it by a halter made of sash cord while the other beat a consistent tattoo on the goat's rear to make sure that it didn't accomplish its desire to sit down. Somehow the protests of the animal were not an expression of its famed stubbornness but cries arising out of a sense of impending doom.

The goat was seedy looking, thin as thin can be, its coat patchy. The boys, dirty and smelly, looked no better. They dragged the goat to a vacant lot in Chinatown and hitched it to a fence, from which, as far as the rope would permit, it dived into some foliage for a fast feast.

Several Chinese gathered around, not surprised at the scene and asking questions about the price. One of them bought it for five dollars and led it toward his back door, which opened on the lot.

The goat, if it still isn't fattening in some back yard, has probably been consumed under a screen of chop suey. The last time I shared a midnight snack in Chinatown with Tom Daley and Archie Laurie the beef and greens yielded a piece of alleged beef unlike any I had ever tasted.

Probably this goat's unfortunate cousin.

* * *

Juvenile Ranchers

I asked the boys, who both looked under eighteen, where they got the goat.

"We've got thousands of them," one answered, "on our farm. It's about 150 miles up Yonge street. We sell plenty of them."

Who buys them?

"We sell most of them to the stockyards. But we can always pick up a few fast dollars around here. We load a couple on the truck every Saturday and put them in our garage in town. Sunday we bring them down here. The Chinese buy them and the Italians like them too."

How did they get in the goat-raising business?

"We used to have jobs and saved our money. Our cousin put in with us and we bought a farm. Somebody told us it was good for raising sheep, swine or goats. We bought some goats. They breed fast—every two months. Hospitals buy the milk. We do pretty good."

Doesn't the government require them to slaughter at an abattoir and have the meat inspected and stamped?

"Don't know about that. They butcher everything in Chinatown—sheep, chickens, goats. We kill plenty of them ourselves. Nothing to it."

They went away arguing whether to leave for the farm right away or stay over to see the Casino midnight show.

I think I'll rent the parking lot on Dundas Square and turn it into a goat ranch.

* * *

King Cow — For a Day

The doings reminded me of the time I stopped off at the Chicago stockyards, a city within a city, where they have a newspaper and a radio station. The first thing you encounter as you approach it is the smell, next the bleating of the sacrificial animals.

There are men who occupy themselves all day with slitting the throats of sheep in whose eyes the agony of fear is frozen by death. Others stun cattle by hitting them on the head with sledgehammers. The runways fall away on one side and the cattle are hoisted by their hind legs, after which life pours out of them in showers of blood brought on by unemotional blacks with large knives.

The general process is opposite of Ford's method. Ford assembles; Swift dissembles. Every piece of value is separated. You follow the remains up and down stairs until there is only the oven or the frying pan to satisfy.

What you see stays with you a while. It isn't nice but it's necessary. For a short time you are resolved to become a vegetarian.

15 Russ Pix For 1943-44

The continued interest in Soviet films has caused Esquire, which distributes them in Canada, to comb the product for the best list possible. The 1943-44 releases here will be headed by "Victory at Stalingrad," the long-awaited record of the war's greatest battle. The film is being edited in Hollywood for consumption on this continent and will be released soon.

There are 15 features of all types scheduled for release during the new season:

"Actress," featuring Galina Sergeyeva and Boris Babochkin, star of "Chapayev," one of the most popular Russian films ever seen here.

"Cabby in the Skies," with Mikhail Zharov and Ludmila Tselikovskaya.

"Road to the Stars," with B. Suskevitch, A. Khyvlaya, B. Zaichikov, E. Fedotov.

"Two Fighter," directed by Lukov.

"Angel of Steel," directed by Yurenov.

"War Almanac," comprising the episodes of "Song of the Giant" and "White Rose," directed by G. Alexandrov. "War Almanac," comprising the episodes "Missing in Action," "Music Box" and "Three Guardsmen," directed by Vladimir Braun.

"In the Heart of Bokhara," directed by Protozanov.

Two documentaries: "Soviet Arsenal," revealing the growth and activity of Russia's war industries behind the Urals, and "Lake Ladoga," a record of the lifting of the siege of Leningrad and the prosecution of the war on the northern front.

"The Life of Lermontov," directed by Gendelstein.

"The Elusive Yan," a drama of the Czechoslovakian people's resistance to the Nazi occupation.

"Submarine T-9," directed by Ivanov.

Another feature will be announced soon.

Canadians Help Honor Samson

Toronto exchange and theatre men were in Buffalo last week to attend a farewell dinner in honor of Sydney Samson, transferred from his post as 20th-Fox head in that area to take charge of the company's Canadian offices. Samson will replace Jim O'Loghlin, who is away on sick leave.

Royal, North Bay, Celebrates 35th Year

The 35th anniversary of the Royal Theatre, North Bay, was well observed by the press and public two weeks ago. Above are the members of its present staff. From left to right, in the front row, they are Leo Taillefer, Rene Taillefer, Jesse Davidson, Hubert Falconi. In the back row: Alan Fogul, Mrs. I. Bebee, Miss Mary Turner, assistant manager; John S. Kurk, manager; Sid A. Cooper and Mrs. F. Bailey. Not present is R. S. Babcock, projectionist.

Monogram's Calgary Office

Just opened in Calgary by Monogram is the newly-built branch office. On the right is Max Phillet, manager. Monogram refused to be stopped by the shortage of space and spent $9,000 to build.

Calgary Manager

Max Phillet, chief of Monogram's Calgary office, at his desk. The walls are a little bare but give him time, give him time.